

REMARKS

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment in which the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. Attached hereto as page 4, pursuant to Rule 1.121(b)(1)(iii) is a marked-up copy of the original specification paragraphs showing the changes made thereto.

Claims 1-9 are pending herein. Applicants have amended claims 5-7 and 9 to eliminate multiple dependent claims. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe the case is now in condition for examination. Attached hereto as page 5, pursuant to Rule 1.121(c)(1)(ii), is a marked-up copy of the amended claims.

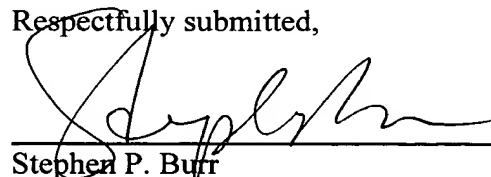
If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

October 12, 2001

Date

Respectfully submitted,


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At page 6, line 29—page 7, line 5, the following changes were made:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

~~Fig. 1 is a diagram~~ Figs. 1(a) and 1(b) are diagrams illustrating an embodiment of the present invention.

~~Fig. 2 is a diagram~~ Figs. 2(a) and 2(b) are diagrams illustrating another embodiment of the present invention.

~~Fig. 3 is a diagram~~ Figs. 3(a) and 3(b) are diagrams illustrating a conventional fiber array.

~~Fig. 4 is a~~ Figs. 4(a)-(c) are partial magnifications of the circular portion in Fig. 3.

5. (Amended) The fiber array according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the end face of the fiber is flush with the end face of the fiber array or protrudes therefrom.
6. (Amended) The fiber array according to ~~any one of claims 3 or 4~~claim 3, wherein the end face of the peripheral adhesive B is recessed at most 10 μm from the end face of the fiber array.
7. (Amended) The fiber array according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the peripheral adhesive B has a Young's modulus of at least 0.03GPa.
9. (Amended) An optical device that is connected/fixed to a fiber array according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 4~~claim 1.